

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and add the following new claims:

--12 A method for producing a card-shaped information carrier, comprising the steps of: placing at least one card template which is to be sized into a hollow mold; and subjecting the template to a simultaneous action of pressure and heat for a predetermined time so that the template placed into the hollow mold is heated over at least one large area by heating plates, and in a peripheral, narrow, outer boundary region of the inserted template quantities of heat flowing off per se there are retained, blocked in, reflected and concentrated back onto the template.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the placing step includes placing a laminate template including a plurality of sized card layers into the hollow mold.

14. An apparatus for producing a sized, card-shaped information carrier comprising a frame defining a cavity in which card layers are placeable for lamination by pressure and heat, a peripheral region of the frame consisting of a material which is one of at most only slightly heat-conducting, reflects heat and concentrates heat back onto an inserted laminate, the frame having internal dimensions that correspond to final dimensions of the card-shaped carrier.

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15. An apparatus as defined in claim 14, and further comprising heating plates arranged on both sides of the frame forming, by its internal dimensions, the cavity for the laminating process.

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16. An apparatus as defined in claim 15, wherein one of the heating plates has external dimensions that correspond to the internal dimensions of the frame and is insertable with a prestressing action into said frame so as to produce the pressure required for laminating.

17. An apparatus as defined in claim 16, wherein the heating plates include an upper heating plate and a lower heating plate, the lower heating plate having the external dimensions that correspond to the internal dimensions of the frame, and further comprising a cooling body adjacent to the lower heating plate so that the cooling body is insertable together with the lower heating plate into the frame.

18. An apparatus as defined in claim 17, and further comprising prestressing means for prestressingly acting on the cooling body adjacent to the lower heating plate.

19. An apparatus as defined in claim 17, wherein the upper heating plate is arranged to close the cavity formed by the frame in a lid-like manner by way of a boundary lip projecting over the frame dimensions.

20. An apparatus as defined in claim 19, and further comprising pressure-producing means for pressing the frame and the upper heating plate firmly against one another so that between the upper heating plate, which closes the cavity in a lid-like manner, and the frame an intrinsic relative movement is possible.

21. An apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein the frame has a reduction in material in a transitional edge region in order to increase specific contact pressure between a frame border edge and the upper heating plate.

22. An apparatus as defined in claim 21, wherein the reduction in material is formed by a peripheral, outer annular recess in the frame.

23. An apparatus as defined in claim 19, and further comprising dedicated prestressing means for pressing the frame by its transitional boundary edge against the boundary lip of the upper heating plate.

24. An apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein the frame prestressing means are supported on the cooling body which is assigned to the lower heating plate and subjects the lower heating plate to pressure.--